GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:306
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2007
PERMISSION TO PRIVATE AIRLINES TO FLY ON GULF ROUTES
Gadhavi Shri Pushpdan Shambhudan

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Group of Ministers (GoM) is deliberating on the various issues relating to the aviation sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has granted permission to some private airlines to fly on lucrative Gulf routes without waiting for the recommendations of the GoM

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the financial impact on Indian Airlines and Air India due to the grant of permission to the private airlines?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) to (e):- A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 306 for reply on 06.12.2007 regarding 'Permission to Private Airlines to fly on Gulf Routes'

(a) and (b): A Group of Ministers (GoM)has been constituted to consider the draft National Civil Aviation Policy.

(c) and (d): As per the decision of the Cabinet taken on 29th December 2004, the Private Scheduled carriers having a fleet of 20 aircraft and 5 years experience of operations in domestic sector were permitted to operate on international routes except the Gulf routes. The Gulf routes had been kept reserved for the national carriers for three years ending December, 2007. In accordance with this decision, M/s Jet Airways have been permitted to operate on the Gulf routes w.e.f. 1st January, 2008 subject to the availability of traffic rights.

(e):In accordance with the decision of the Cabinet taken on 29th December 2004, the operational requirements of the national carrier have been duly considered, before allocating traffic rights to M/s Jet Airways to operate on Gulf routes. With the operations of the eligible Private Scheduled airlines, there will be increased competition on the Gulf route, which will be in the passenger interest.